



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS  
Washington, D.C. 20231  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/774,727	01/31/2001	Martha L. Lyons	10007376-1	6080

7590 03/12/2003

HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY  
Intellectual Property Administration  
P.O. Box 272400  
Fort Collins, CO 80527-2400

EXAMINER

CORRIELUS, JEAN M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2172

DATE MAILED: 03/12/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/774,727

Applicant(s)

LYONS, MARTHA L.

Examiner

Jean M Corrielus

Art Unit

2172

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 January 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_ 6) ☐ Other:

Art Unit: 2172:

### **DETAILED ACTION**

1. This office action is in response to the application filed on January 31, 2001, in which claims 1-20 are presented for examination.

#### ***Drawings***

2. Applicants are required to furnish the formal drawings in response this office action. No new matter may be introduced in the required drawing. Failure to timely submit a drawing will result in **ABANDONMENT** of the application.

#### ***Claim Objections***

3. Claim 5 is objected to because of the following informalities: claim 5 recites "on said plurality" line 3. For purpose of examination the examiner has considered "on said plurality" to be "--on said plurality of community organization--". Appropriate correction is required.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102***

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in-

Art Unit: 2172:

(1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or

(2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United States for the purposes of this subsection based on the filing of an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a).

5. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lang US Patent

application Publication no. US/2002/0046041 .

As to claim 1, Lang discloses the claimed limitation “a database for storing said reputation information” [0006], [0025]; “security measures for verifying identities of at least one of said user and a plurality of community organizations” [0007]; and “a communication system for receiving said reputation information and transmitting said reputation information to said plurality of community organizations responsive to an authorization received by said user”[0024][0028].

As to claim 2, Lang discloses the claimed “information related to activities of said user”[0029]; information related to qualification of said user’[0029]; and “information related to reliability of said user”[0029].

As to claim 3, Lang discloses the claimed “a certification engine for authenticity of said transmitted reputation information”[0024].

Art Unit: 2172:

As to claim 4, Lang discloses the claimed limitations “a reputation information classifier for grouping pieces of said reputation information into predetermined categories related to activities conducted with said plurality of communication organizations”[0027][0031][0032][0033].

As to claim 5, Lang discloses the claimed limitation “wherein said plurality of community organizations received said reputation information in categories related to said activities conducted on said plurality”[0030][0033].

As to claim 6, Lang discloses the claimed “wherein said user authorization is provided by said user to said plurality of community organization for receiving said reputation information from said reputation authority”[0033]-[0039],[0043].

As to claim 7, Lang discloses the claimed “wherein said user authorizes said reputation authority to transmit said reputation to said plurality of community organizations”[0043]-[0047].

As to claim 8, Lang discloses the claimed “wherein at least one of said user and said plurality of community organizations subscribes to said reputation authority in order to participate in said electronically storing reputation information”[0042]-[0052].

Art Unit: 2172:

As to claim 9, Lang discloses the claimed “verifying an identity of one of an associated user and an accessing third party responsive to a request to access said centralized repository”[0032]; “receiving said identity attributes from at least one of said verified associated user and said verified accessing third party”[0032]-[0044]; “storing said identity attribute in a database indexed according to said verified associated user” [0030]-[0039] and “delivering at least one set of said identity attributes to said verified third party responsive to an authorization received from said verified associated user”[0043]-[0045].

As to claim 10, Lang discloses the claimed “categorizing said identity attribute into sets related to activities of said accessing third party”[0037]-[0039].

As to claim 11, Lang discloses the claimed “wherein said at least one set comprises said sets related to activities of said accessing third party”[0032]-[0039].

As to claim 12, Lang discloses the claimed “processing a request for said at least one set of identity attributes from said accessing third party, wherein said associated user provides said authorization to said accessing third party”[0042]-[0043].

Art Unit: 2172:

As to claim 13, Lang discloses the claimed “updating said stored identity attributes from at least one of said associated user and said accessing third party” and “certifying said at least one set of said identity attributes”[0047].

As to claim 14, Lang discloses the claimed “registering at least at least one of said associated user and said accessing third party with said centralized repository of identity attributes for receiving prior to said verifying step”[0042].

As to claim 15, Lang discloses the claimed “means for verifying an identity of one of a plurality of users and a plurality of participating user community responsive to a request to access said clearinghouse”[0029]-[0035]; “means for storing reliability data from one of said verified plurality of users and said verified plurality of participating user community”[0029]-[0035]; “means for associating said stored reliability data with an associated user”[0031]-[0043]; and “means releasing selected reliability data to one of said verified plurality of participating user community responsive to consent giving by said associated user” [0042]-[0046].

As to claim 16, Lang discloses the claimed “means for updating said stored reliability data from at least one of said plurality of users and said plurality of participating user communities”[0023], [0047].

Art Unit: 2172:

As to claim 17, Lang discloses the claimed “means for classifying said reliability data into groups related to activities of said plurality of participating user communities”[0031]-[0039].

As to claim 18, Lang discloses the claimed “wherein said selected reliability data comprises said groups related to activities of said plurality of participating user communities”. [0031]-[0039].

As to claim 19, Lang discloses the claimed “means for processing request for said selected reliability data from said plurality of participating user communities, wherein said verified one of said plurality of users provides said consent to said plurality of participating user communities”[0042]-[0044].

As to claim 20, Lang discloses the claimed “means for processing a request to deliver said selected reliability data from said verified one of said plurality of users, wherein said verified one of said plurality of users provides said consent to said reputation management clearinghouse”[0043]-[0046].

### *Conclusion*

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or early communication from the Examiner should be directed to **Jean M. Corrielus** whose telephone number is (703) 306-3035. The Examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday-Friday from 7:00am to 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Vu, can be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. at (703)305-4393.



Serial Number: 09/774,727:

Page 8

Art Unit: 2172:

**Any response to this action should be mailed to:** Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**or faxed to:** (703) 308-9051, (for formal communications intended for entry)

**Or:** (703)305-9731 (for informal or draft communications, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT") Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2021 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9600.



Jean M. Corrielus

Patent Examiner

February 28, 2003